

SURGICAL FORUM—Proceedings of the Forum Sessions 37th Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, San Francisco, November, 1951. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1952. 667 pages, 290 figures. \$10.00.

This is a book which represents the proceedings of the forum on fundamental surgical problems presented annually at the American College of Surgeons meetings. It, therefore, consists solely of reports on the experimental work that is being conducted the country over in the field of surgery.

It does not limit itself to any one surgical specialty, but covers research work and all surgical specialties. It is an excellent review of experimental work in the surgical centers of the United States. It will be valuable, therefore, to people interested in conducting research in their own hospitals. It is not of value to anyone wishing to acquaint himself with the latest developments in clinical surgery, except as these discussions can be transplanted on an experimental basis again to clinical problems.

It is recommended, therefore, to people interested in surgical research, but it is not the kind of book that the man who is interested in clinical surgery alone would profit by securing for his library. All of this work will appear sooner or later in one of the leading surgical journals. It reports the type of material that is seen in the leading surgical journals on experimental work but is about one year ahead of time.

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PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF AVIATION MEDICINE—Third Edition—Harry G. Armstrong, M.D., F.A.C.P., The Surgeon General, United States Air Force. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1952. 476 pages, \$7.50.

This book is the standard text for flight surgeons for the armed forces, and as such the third edition has maintained its previous excellent qualities and over-all coverage of the field. There is no doubt that General Armstrong has wide experience in this field, and the text lives up to his impressive records.

It might be carping, but there are many suggestions for future editions as well as omissions which seriously detract from the value of this volume.

The order of the chapters leaves something to be desired. The chapters on Pilot Selection and Physical Examination of the Pilot precede the physiological problems of aviation medicine, and the chapter on Noxious Substances precedes the chapters on the Atmosphere, Altitude Sickness, and Oxygen in Aviation.

Numerous photographs of obsolete equipment which appeared in the previous edition are still maintained for little reason except, perhaps, for historical value.

A thorough chapter on respiratory physiology with more basic information and less application for equipment would be helpful. Similarly, the chapter on Speed and Acceleration elaborates on radial and rotary acceleration, at the expense of almost completely ignoring linear acceleration.

There is also no mention of the prone position as a possible method of ameliorating the effects of radial acceleration, and one-third of a page is devoted to the anti-blackout suit and one page to an obsolete crash helmet, while the newer work and developments by groups other than the Army are totally ignored. This exclusion of scientific work by groups other than the Army reaches almost embarrassing proportions when the excellent basic studies by the Mayo Clinic group on aeroembolism and aeroemphysema are barely mentioned. The basic endeavors of the Navy research groups on the anti-blackout suit and on linear acceleration and crash protection do not appear. The excellent helmet research by the group at the University of Southern California is nowhere to be found. The fine work on equilibrium by Graybiel with the U. S. Navy is omitted. The account of

parachuting is antiquated, and no mention of Starnes' phenomenal free fall of 30,000 feet in 1943 is made. Most of this and other pertinent material is now declassified and should be contained in such an authoritative text for completeness.

Discussions of gravitational and anti-gravitational problems, ionosphere, space travel, jet and rocket aircraft and associated medical problems would be of current and future value to the student of aviation medicine. The bibliography at the end of most chapters persists in quoting work previous to World War II. The index is meager—but four pages for 460 pages of text replete with technical terms. In general, not much new material appears in the third edition that was not present in either the first or the second edition. However, this would not be a serious deficiency for any but the expert in aviation medicine.

It is evident that much information is withheld because of obvious military security which has not as yet been released. General Armstrong is faced with the difficult task of choosing the most significant data from a rapidly advancing field, and he has done an admirable job.

This book is recommended highly to the student entering upon aviation medicine for a complete and well-oriented view of the subject.

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DYNAMIC PSYCHIATRY—Transvestism—Desire for Crippled Women—Volume Two. Louis S. London, M.D., Corinthian Publication, Inc., 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, 1952. 129 pages, \$2.50.

The subtitle of this book is "Transvestism—Desire for Crippled Women." The case described is considered of importance because of the patient's psychopathological interest in crippled women, dwarfs, freaks, cross-eyed, bearded women, and because the patient sometimes masqueraded as either a male or female cripple. Transvestism is defined as "a form of sexual deviation in which the person desires to play the role of the opposite sex by crossed dressing." Following a chapter on the anthropological and historical references of the subject, 50 psychobiographic fantasies drawn by the patient and described in his own words are presented. The third and final chapter is concerned with the presentation of the case history; description of dreams related to shoe fetishism and transvestism, and at the conclusion a short description of the psychodynamics of the problem. The interpretation is obviously psychoanalytically oriented and emphasizes the importance of the Oedipus complex, latent homosexuality, the castration complex, sado-masochism, exhibitionism, shoe fetishism, and transvestism. This little volume is essentially a case report and will be of interest primarily to sexologists and psychoanalysts.

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STUDIES IN MEDICINE—A Volume of Papers in Honor of Robert Wood Keeton. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1951. 396 pages. \$8.50.

This volume is a "Festschrift" prepared by colleagues of Dr. Robert Wood Keeton to celebrate his career in academic medicine, on the occasion of his retirement from the chair of medicine at the University of Illinois.

The chapters consist of unrelated topics by the faculty of the University of Illinois and Northwestern, with a few articles from other sources. The titles vary from "The Art of Using Lantern Slides" by Thomas S. Jones, to "The Microdetermination of Lipids—The Synthesis of Labile Phosphorus Compounds of the Phospholipids by Reaction with Monobasic Sodium Phosphate" by A. B. Kendrick.

Those readers who are interested in noting some of the investigative work being done in Chicago will find this volume of interest.